

menus informing the user on how to proceed. If a recordable type PC card is detected, the user will be presented with a menu of options including but not limited to the following: Read a Book; Read Pages; Record Pages; and Create a Book. When the user is done with electronic book device 100, an electronic bookmark is placed at the last open page.

Obviously, numerous modifications and variations of the present invention are possible in light of the above teachings. It is therefore understood that within the scope of the appended claims, the invention may be practiced otherwise than as specifically described herein.

What is claimed is:

1. An electronic book device, which comprises:

- a) an electronic display unit having a flat panel screen and a housing for containing said flat panel screen;
- b) a cover and a means for hingedly and electrically connecting said cover to said electronic display unit;
- c) said housing having means for accessing material on a PC card and forwarding said material to said electronic display unit;
- d) said housing having means for navigating through said material on said electronic display unit;
- e) means for activation and deactivation of said electronic display unit responsive to opening, partially opening, partially closing and closing of said electronic book device; said means for activation and deactivation being responsive to a detent in said hinge means, said detent indicating a relation between said electronic display unit and said cover;
- f) means for orientating said material on said electronic display unit responsive to an opening position of said electronic book device; and,
- g) means for conditioning power to said electronic book device.

2. The electronic book device of claim 1, wherein said means for orientating further includes means for determining said opening position by using a multi-function gravity switch in combination with said detent in said hinge.

3. The electronic book device of claim 2, wherein said electronic book device further includes means for communicating with external devices to obtain other material.

4. The electronic book device of claim 3, wherein said electronic book device further includes:

- a data entry mechanism, said data entry mechanism being operatively connected to said electronic display unit.

5. The electronic book device of claim 4, wherein said data entry mechanism is implemented by having said electronic display unit being a touchscreen.

6. The electronic book device of claim 4, wherein said data entry mechanism is a keyboard pad.

7. The electronic book device of claim 1, wherein said electronic book device further includes:

- a) a data entry mechanism, said data entry mechanism being operatively connected to said electronic display unit.

8. The electronic book device of claim 7, wherein said means for navigating further includes:

- a) a plurality of navigation keys designed to retreat and advance through said material; and
- b) an assistant key for facilitating the setting of user defined parameters and accessing specialized menus.

9. The electronic book device of claim 8, wherein said means for activation and deactivation further includes:

- a) means for setting an electronic bookmark when said electronic display unit is deactivated, said means for setting an electronic bookmark being responsive to said detent in said hinge; and,
- b) means for initiating a sleep mode responsive to said detent in said hinge, said detent indicating a relation between said electronic display unit and said cover.

10. The electronic book device of claim 9, wherein said electronic book device has an outer protective cover.

11. The electronic book device of claim 1, wherein said cover is a second electronic display unit.

12. The electronic book device of claim 11, wherein said electronic book device further includes:

- a data entry mechanism, said data entry mechanism being operatively connected to one of said electronic display unit and said second electronic display unit.

13. The electronic book device of claim 12, wherein said data entry mechanism is implemented by having said one being a touchscreen.

14. The electronic book device of claim 13, wherein when said electronic book device is laid flat on a surface and said electronic display unit and said second electronic display unit are at a predetermined angle as indicated by said detent, said means for orientating orientates said material in an over-under horizontal configuration accompanied by activation of said touchscreen as said data entry mechanism.

15. The electronic book device of claim 11, wherein when said electronic book device is opened in a normal booklike manner, said means for orientating orientates said material in a side-by-side vertical configuration.

16. The electronic book device of claim 11, wherein when said electronic book device is opened in a checkbook manner, said means for orientating orientates said material in an over-under horizontal configuration.

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